

Table 2.2

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>240,821</b>	<b>225,685</b>	<b>217,013</b>	<b>210,890</b>	<b>230,509</b>	<b>229,850</b>	<b>236,391</b>	<b>248,335</b>
<b>CONTRACT ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>62,685</b>	<b>57,593</b>	<b>44,481</b>	<b>45,418</b>	<b>49,434</b>	<b>35,146</b>	<b>31,254</b>	<b>31,182</b>
Insurance	7,969	7,703	7,104	7,364	7,320	7,383	7,385	7,540
Marine	3,375	3,285	3,286	3,190	3,310	3,017	2,708	2,622
Miller Act	1,522	1,725	1,458	1,116	835	835	886	775
Negotiable Instruments	3,551	3,820	2,993	3,092	2,690	1,905	1,499	1,536
<b>Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments</b>	<b>18,485</b>	<b>14,608</b>	<b>9,449</b>	<b>11,188</b>	<b>16,006</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>2,330</b>	<b>1,822</b>
Medicare Benefits	88	95	104	122	121	117	104	66
Student Loans (1)	4,650	6,484	4,471	6,344	11,711	2,816	1,313	1,142
Veterans' Benefits (2)	12,953	7,370	4,381	4,289	3,809	1,306	653	253
Other	794	659	493	433	365	280	260	361
Other Contract Actions	27,783	26,452	20,191	19,468	19,273	17,487	16,446	16,887
<b>REAL PROPERTY ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>12,322</b>	<b>10,432</b>	<b>9,603</b>	<b>10,049</b>	<b>9,976</b>	<b>7,884</b>	<b>7,585</b>	<b>6,869</b>
Condemnation of Land	474	472	474	547	443	374	435	334
Foreclosure	9,832	7,950	7,188	7,586	7,630	5,896	5,572	4,972
Rent, Lease, and Ejectments	430	405	348	414	390	340	303	310
Torts to Land	454	435	488	441	453	404	412	401
Other Real Property Actions	1,132	1,170	1,105	1,061	1,060	870	863	852
<b>TORT ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>45,883</b>	<b>40,235</b>	<b>44,041</b>	<b>35,945</b>	<b>38,179</b>	<b>43,259</b>	<b>47,664</b>	<b>53,986</b>
<b>Personal Injury, Total (3)</b>	<b>42,118</b>	<b>36,663</b>	<b>40,815</b>	<b>32,681</b>	<b>34,840</b>	<b>39,746</b>	<b>44,306</b>	<b>50,565</b>
<b>Personal Injury Product Liability, Total</b>	<b>17,085</b>	<b>12,780</b>	<b>18,839</b>	<b>10,952</b>	<b>12,437</b>	<b>18,959</b>	<b>22,288</b>	<b>27,547</b>
Airplane	174	190	191	111	114	95	115	155
Marine	108	73	277	55	75	65	42	53
Motor Vehicle	649	643	589	533	567	630	534	566
Asbestos	11,812	7,818	13,809	5,596	5,131	5,683	6,518	6,916
Other	4,342	4,056	3,973	4,657	6,550	12,486	15,079	19,857
<b>Other Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>25,031</b>	<b>23,883</b>	<b>21,976</b>	<b>21,729</b>	<b>22,403</b>	<b>20,787</b>	<b>22,018</b>	<b>23,018</b>
Airplane	713	683	873	886	685	534	557	683
Marine	3,037	2,967	2,937	2,978	2,854	2,601	2,330	2,277
Motor Vehicle	7,333	7,192	6,105	5,883	5,635	5,370	5,087	5,374
Assault, Libel and Slander	816	649	670	619	684	712	783	826
Fed Employers' Liability Act	2,475	2,762	2,703	2,497	3,233	2,149	2,092	1,903
Medical Malpractice	1,611	1,464	1,346	1,348	1,375	1,279	1,332	1,328
Other	9,046	8,166	7,342	7,518	7,937	8,142	9,837	10,627
<b>Personal Property Damage, Total</b>	<b>3,765</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>3,226</b>	<b>3,264</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>3,513</b>	<b>3,358</b>	<b>3,421</b>
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	1,669	1,644	1,561	1,567	1,640	1,756	1,708	1,881
Other Personal Property Damage	2,096	1,928	1,665	1,697	1,699	1,757	1,650	1,540

Table 2.2 (Continued)

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>269,132</b>	<b>272,027</b>	<b>256,787</b>	<b>260,271</b>	<b>259,517</b>	<b>250,907</b>	<b>274,841</b>	<b>252,962</b>
<b>CONTRACT ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>35,688</b>	<b>40,836</b>	<b>42,292</b>	<b>50,676</b>	<b>53,625</b>	<b>43,148</b>	<b>35,843</b>	<b>31,263</b>
Insurance	7,914	8,045	7,270	7,327	7,517	7,874	8,793	8,629
Marine	2,797	2,587	2,593	2,529	2,446	2,505	2,122	1,912
Miller Act	912	834	862	780	769	560	528	442
Negotiable Instruments	1,194	1,056	673	577	495	605	595	524
<b>Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgments</b>	<b>5,139</b>	<b>9,677</b>	<b>14,577</b>	<b>22,403</b>	<b>24,838</b>	<b>13,409</b>	<b>5,651</b>	<b>3,073</b>
Medicare Benefits	90	114	131	151	114	117	135	193
Student Loans (1)	4,508	9,098	14,080	21,915	24,404	12,952	5,212	2,525
Veterans' Benefits (2)	152	115	79	60	43	118	98	84
Other	389	350	287	277	277	222	206	271
Other Contract Actions	17,732	18,637	16,317	17,060	17,560	18,195	18,154	16,683
<b>REAL PROPERTY ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>6,254</b>	<b>5,473</b>	<b>5,663</b>	<b>5,972</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>7,290</b>	<b>8,059</b>	<b>7,373</b>
Condemnation of Land	367	334	475	414	1,243	1,506	938	408
Foreclosure	4,406	3,764	3,790	4,302	4,209	4,458	5,592	5,319
Rent, Lease, and Ejectments	295	239	225	197	175	196	216	160
Torts to Land	363	390	397	401	377	388	353	791
Other Real Property Actions	823	746	776	658	707	742	960	695
<b>TORT ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>59,661</b>	<b>58,289</b>	<b>50,362</b>	<b>44,426</b>	<b>36,586</b>	<b>33,663</b>	<b>62,919</b>	<b>45,054</b>
<b>Personal Injury, Total (3)</b>	<b>55,647</b>	<b>53,940</b>	<b>46,496</b>	<b>40,497</b>	<b>32,621</b>	<b>29,789</b>	<b>58,997</b>	<b>39,563</b>
<b>Personal Injury Product Liability, Total</b>	<b>27,584</b>	<b>32,856</b>	<b>26,886</b>	<b>18,781</b>	<b>14,428</b>	<b>12,307</b>	<b>41,135</b>	<b>21,611</b>
Airplane	135	161	177	163	164	118	120	101
Marine	55	43	68	48	54	39	42	34
Motor Vehicle	550	537	438	433	421	654	564	609
Asbestos	7,289	7,143	9,111	8,948	7,187	5,041	26,818	1,562
Other	19,555	24,972	17,092	9,189	6,602	6,455	13,591	19,305
<b>Other Personal Injury, Total</b>	<b>28,063</b>	<b>21,084</b>	<b>19,610</b>	<b>21,716</b>	<b>18,193</b>	<b>17,482</b>	<b>17,862</b>	<b>17,952</b>
Airplane	809	740	733	678	747	714	846	659
Marine	2,172	2,298	2,110	4,995	2,006	2,164	1,978	1,814
Motor Vehicle	5,330	5,126	4,933	4,901	4,690	4,535	4,525	4,480
Assault, Libel and Slander	848	859	767	825	801	623	693	892
Fed Employers' Liability Act	2,225	1,943	1,635	1,264	1,108	1,067	944	975
Medical Malpractice	1,330	1,368	1,322	1,447	1,526	1,429	1,463	1,607
Other	15,349	8,750	8,110	7,606	7,315	6,950	7,413	7,525
<b>Personal Property Damage, Total</b>	<b>4,014</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>3,866</b>	<b>3,929</b>	<b>3,965</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>3,922</b>	<b>5,491</b>
Fraud, Including Truth in Lending	2,299	2,693	2,170	2,244	2,265	2,224	2,359	3,860
Other Personal Property Damage	1,715	1,656	1,696	1,685	1,700	1,650	1,563	1,631

Table 2.2 (Continued)

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
<b>ACTIONS UNDER STATUTES, TOTAL</b>	<b>119,784</b>	<b>117,327</b>	<b>118,762</b>	<b>119,337</b>	<b>132,818</b>	<b>143,398</b>	<b>149,788</b>	<b>156,209</b>
Antitrust	658	615	527	654	502	653	686	781
<b>Bankruptcy, Total</b>	<b>6,024</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>5,179</b>	<b>5,050</b>	<b>5,405</b>	<b>6,302</b>	<b>5,497</b>	<b>5,046</b>
Appeal (28 USC 158)	4,300	4,108	4,330	4,332	4,626	4,892	4,558	4,312
Withdrawal (28 USC 157)	1,724	691	849	718	779	1,410	939	734
<b>Banks and Banking</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>432</b>
<b>Civil Rights, Total (4)</b>	<b>19,374</b>	<b>19,111</b>	<b>18,922</b>	<b>19,892</b>	<b>24,233</b>	<b>27,655</b>	<b>32,622</b>	<b>36,600</b>
Voting	354	160	140	247	494	213	224	208
Employment	8,601	8,868	8,273	8,370	10,771	12,962	15,965	19,059
Accommodations	322	329	364	452	527	590	730	735
Welfare	134	117	137	130	125	114	122	116
Other Civil Rights	9,963	9,637	10,008	10,693	12,316	13,776	15,581	16,482
<b>Commerce (ICC Rates, Etc.)</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,998</b>	<b>1,641</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>580</b>
Economic Stabilization Act	29	13	10	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Environmental Matters</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>1,004</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>1,081</b>
<b>Deportation</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Prisoner Petitions, Total</b>	<b>39,732</b>	<b>41,499</b>	<b>43,199</b>	<b>42,316</b>	<b>48,423</b>	<b>53,451</b>	<b>57,940</b>	<b>63,550</b>
Motions to Vacate Sentence	2,183	2,628	3,087	3,385	3,983	5,379	4,628	5,988
Habeas Corpus	12,054	12,385	13,083	12,019	12,806	13,054	13,359	14,975
Mandamus and Other	610	650	893	664	1,078	1,085	888	908
Civil Rights	24,885	25,836	26,136	26,248	30,556	33,933	39,065	41,679
<b>Forfeiture and Penalty, Total</b>	<b>4,149</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>6,021</b>	<b>5,525</b>	<b>5,529</b>	<b>4,479</b>	<b>3,285</b>	<b>2,517</b>
Agricultural Acts	102	127	87	91	98	115	156	155
Food and Drug Act	966	1,528	2,663	635	559	390	263	197
Drug Related Seizure of Property	-	-	-	2,217	2,348	1,934	1,326	1,042
Air Traffic Regulations	120	88	49	45	57	46	29	11
Occupational Safety and Health Act	39	45	58	91	75	69	49	33
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	2,922	3,641	3,164	2,446	2,392	1,925	1,462	1,079
<b>Labor Laws, Total</b>	<b>12,686</b>	<b>13,468</b>	<b>14,068</b>	<b>14,917</b>	<b>16,394</b>	<b>15,820</b>	<b>15,662</b>	<b>14,954</b>
Fair Labor Standards Act	1,390	1,367	1,257	1,328	1,464	1,457	1,545	1,580
Labor Management Relations Act	2,698	2,473	2,272	2,039	2,219	2,050	2,142	1,984
Labor Management Reporting & Disclosure Act	181	189	165	149	174	137	153	161
Railway Labor Act	252	221	197	163	163	166	163	172
E.R.I.S.A.*	-	-	-	9,843	10,918	10,536	10,216	9,517
Other Labor Litigation	8,165	9,218	10,177	1,395	1,456	1,474	1,443	1,540
<b>Protected Property Rights, Total</b>	<b>6,035</b>	<b>5,856</b>	<b>5,738</b>	<b>5,186</b>	<b>5,830</b>	<b>6,560</b>	<b>6,902</b>	<b>6,866</b>
Copyright	2,264	2,253	2,078	1,795	2,080	2,588	2,828	2,417
Patent	1,226	1,155	1,238	1,171	1,474	1,553	1,617	1,723
Trademark	2,545	2,448	2,422	2,220	2,276	2,419	2,457	2,726

Table 2.2 (Continued)

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>ACTIONS UNDER STATUTES, TOTAL</b>	<b>167,520</b>	<b>167,414</b>	<b>158,459</b>	<b>159,185</b>	<b>162,583</b>	<b>166,792</b>	<b>168,010</b>	<b>169,253</b>
Antitrust	689	598	580	645	858	723	826	762
<b>Bankruptcy, Total</b>	<b>4,565</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>3,833</b>	<b>3,725</b>	<b>3,361</b>	<b>2,950</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>3,305</b>
Appeal (28 USC 158)	3,872	3,475	3,313	2,956	2,785	2,519	2,636	2,658
Withdrawal (28 USC 157)	693	664	520	769	576	431	1,464	647
<b>Banks and Banking</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>Civil Rights, Total (4)</b>	<b>42,007</b>	<b>43,278</b>	<b>42,354</b>	<b>41,304</b>	<b>40,908</b>	<b>40,910</b>	<b>40,420</b>	<b>40,516</b>
Voting	229	141	108	102	167	195	234	147
Employment	23,152	23,796	23,735	22,490	21,032	21,157	20,955	20,507
Accommodations	932	854	838	1,136	1,284	1,249	1,313	1,315
Welfare	83	91	66	63	80	61	71	65
Other Civil Rights	17,611	18,396	17,607	17,513	18,345	18,248	17,847	18,482
<b>Commerce (ICC Rates, Etc.)</b>	<b>1,624</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>538</b>
<b>Economic Stabilization Act</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Environmental Matters</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>947</b>
<b>Deportation</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>Prisoner Petitions, Total</b>	<b>68,235</b>	<b>62,966</b>	<b>54,715</b>	<b>56,603</b>	<b>58,257</b>	<b>58,805</b>	<b>55,295</b>	<b>54,378</b>
Motions to Vacate Sentence	9,729	11,675	6,287	5,752	6,341	8,644	6,107	5,832
Habeas Corpus	16,429	21,858	21,159	24,089	25,219	24,886	24,099	23,313
Mandamus and Other	862	798	807	1,068	1,192	1,157	1,125	1,160
Civil Rights	41,215	28,635	26,462	25,694	25,505	24,118	23,964	24,073
<b>Forfeiture and Penalty, Total</b>	<b>2,235</b>	<b>2,384</b>	<b>2,331</b>	<b>2,258</b>	<b>2,320</b>	<b>1,938</b>	<b>2,119</b>	<b>2,073</b>
Agricultural Acts	162	146	132	65	57	46	47	49
Food and Drug Act	140	149	124	102	110	58	69	72
Drug Related Seizure of Property	947	1,131	1,106	1,104	1,117	953	1,200	1,217
Air Traffic Regulations	14	24	12	23	7	4	6	19
Occupational Safety and Health Act	27	20	5	10	4	1	5	6
Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits	945	914	952	954	1,025	876	792	710
<b>Labor Laws, Total</b>	<b>15,073</b>	<b>15,508</b>	<b>14,650</b>	<b>14,372</b>	<b>14,142</b>	<b>15,195</b>	<b>18,285</b>	<b>17,318</b>
Fair Labor Standards Act	1,558	1,633	1,562	1,717	1,935	1,960	3,904	2,751
Labor Management Relations Act	1,902	1,927	1,744	1,782	1,542	1,445	1,529	1,618
Labor Management Reporting & Disclosure Act	185	182	132	123	101	129	84	101
Railway Labor Act	176	168	133	146	137	115	126	101
E.R.I.S.A.*	9,655	10,045	9,609	9,298	9,124	10,292	11,232	11,304
Other Labor Litigation	1,597	1,553	1,470	1,306	1,303	1,254	1,410	1,443
<b>Protected Property Rights, Total</b>	<b>7,028</b>	<b>7,559</b>	<b>7,748</b>	<b>8,242</b>	<b>8,738</b>	<b>8,314</b>	<b>8,254</b>	<b>8,934</b>
Copyright	2,263	2,258	2,082	2,093	2,050	2,446	2,084	2,448
Patent	1,840	2,112	2,218	2,318	2,484	2,520	2,700	2,814
Trademark	2,925	3,189	3,448	3,831	4,204	3,348	3,470	3,672

Table 2.2 (Continued)

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges	2,649	2,604	2,645	2,084	2,002	1,793	1,810	1,906
<b>Social Security Laws, Total (5)</b>	<b>13,750</b>	<b>9,326</b>	<b>6,895</b>	<b>8,491</b>	<b>8,958</b>	<b>11,747</b>	<b>10,927</b>	<b>9,354</b>
Health Insurance	201	124	119	139	125	137	108	81
Black Lung Cases	45	16	28	16	20	17	17	11
Disability Insurance	10,219	6,797	4,743	5,890	5,894	7,664	6,641	5,501
Supplemental Security Income	2,894	2,088	1,774	2,138	2,537	3,476	3,682	3,347
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	390	301	231	308	382	453	479	414
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Reapportionment Suits	4	2	3	12	22	4	8	7
Tax Suits	2,541	2,408	2,672	2,493	2,296	2,274	2,187	2,202
Customer Challenge	30	33	39	27	37	34	36	33
Freedom of Information Act	342	323	411	350	436	435	573	467
Constitutionality of State Statutes	340	317	304	262	425	300	356	309
RICO**	-	-	-	972	897	903	828	900
Other Statutory Actions	8,132	8,000	8,164	7,301	7,010	7,387	7,730	8,518
<b>OTHER ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>89</b>
Domestic Relations	9	5	1	8	3	1	0	0
Insanity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probate	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	137	93	125	133	99	162	100	89

Table 2.2 (Continued)

## U.S. District Courts. Civil Cases Filed by Nature of Suit

(Highlighted areas cover data previously provided in separate tables)

Nature of Suit	Fiscal Year							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges	1,704	1,669	2,358	2,563	2,678	3,538	3,465	3,189
<b>Social Security Laws, Total (5)</b>	<b>9,347</b>	<b>13,605</b>	<b>14,552</b>	<b>13,920</b>	<b>15,829</b>	<b>17,074</b>	<b>18,322</b>	<b>17,127</b>
Health Insurance	71	98	107	98	70	70	86	70
Black Lung Cases	12	17	9	13	20	16	20	10
Disability Insurance	5,166	7,583	7,770	7,334	8,122	8,623	8,739	7,931
Supplemental Security Income	3,656	5,204	5,887	5,689	6,762	7,361	8,313	7,792
Retirement and Survivors Benefits	442	703	779	786	855	1,004	1,164	1,324
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Reapportionment Suits	5	11	3	7	2	13	24	1
Tax Suits	2,122	2,272	1,524	1,179	907	1,020	1,151	1,244
Customer Challenge	22	15	15	26	12	16	7	11
Freedom of Information Act	463	371	397	352	341	325	271	283
Constitutionality of State Statutes	309	333	291	304	288	254	256	267
RICO**	849	840	785	763	829	724	760	743
Other Statutory Actions	9,555	9,977	10,342	10,944	10,918	12,171	12,494	17,116
<b>OTHER ACTIONS, TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>
Domestic Relations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insanity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	9	15	11	12	12	14	10	19

\*Employee Retirement Income Security Act (these filings were included in "other labor litigation" prior to 1991), \*\*Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization Act, "-" = data not reported

**NOTE: Information on data fluctuations for specific nature of suits is shown in outlined sections in this table.**

(1) Filings of defaulted student loans decreased from almost 12,000 in 1992 to slightly more than 1,000 by 1995 due to a change in Department of Education (DOE) policy on collection of delinquent loans. Renewed growth from 1996 to 2000 occurred as a result of streamlining of the loan processing system. In 2001, DOE implemented new administrative measures that caused fewer student loan cases to be filed in federal courts, as reflected in the 88% drop in these cases.

(2) Filings for overpayments of veterans benefits have decreased steadily as the Department of Veterans Affairs has used administrative actions and the Internal Revenue Service to recover overpayments rather than filing suit in district court. For additional information, see the 1991 Annual Report of the Director, page 86.

(3) The significant increase in personal injury filings between 1991 - 1996 was mostly attributable to breast implant cases and a large number of oil refinery cases filed in the Middle District of Louisiana. In 2002, personal injury product liability filings more than tripled due to a large number of plaintiffs seeking relief in the expectation that new laws may be enacted making it more difficult to file cases related to injuries involving asbestos. A significant increase in filings involving plaintiffs seeking relief due to the injurious side effects of the anti-cholesterol drug Baycol also contributed to the increase.

(4) Between 1990 and 1998 civil rights filings increased nearly 130 percent, largely because of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. (For additional information, see the June 1996 Report to the Subcommittee on Judicial Statistics on *Increases in Civil Rights Filings*.) Following a decline in 1998, civil rights filings have since stabilized.

(5) Social security filings increased between 1997 and 2002 due to a change in processing of backlogged cases by the Social Security Administration (SSA), but now appear to be stabilizing. For additional information, see the 1997 Annual Report of the Director, pages 16 and 17.

Source: Statistical Table C-2. For Civil Actions Filed for Recovery of Overpayments and Enforcement of Judgements -- Published Statistical Table S-5 1988 through 1993, Table S-8 1994 through 2003.